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## PRESS RELEASE

## Attorney General Frosh Joins Bipartisan Statement Urging Citizens to Exercise Their Right to Vote and Condemning Potential Political Violence

**BALTIMORE, MD** (October 26, 2020) – Maryland Attorney General Brian E. Frosh has joined a bipartisan coalition of 36 attorneys general urging all citizens to exercise their right to vote, make a plan regarding how they will vote, and condemning any potential political violence that may arise during this election season.

Recently Attorney General Frosh <u>issued guidance</u> reminding Marylanders of their right to vote free of harassment or intimidation. The guidance also clarified the role of poll watchers and challengers, including important limits to their role in voting centers, as well as where electioneering is and is not permitted.

Early voting in Maryland begins today and is open until November 2. A list of early voting centers is available on the Maryland Board of Elections <u>website</u>. Voting on Election Day, November 3, will be open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

To report instances of voter intimidation or harassment, call the Office of Attorney General at 443-961-2830 or toll free at 833-282-0960, or by email at <a href="mailto:electionswork@oag.state.md.us">electionswork@oag.state.md.us</a>.

Below is the full statement issued by the National Association of Attorneys General and signed by Attorney General Frosh:

"As state and territory attorneys general, our backgrounds and perspectives are as diverse as the citizens whom we serve. But we are united in our goal of protecting the rule of law and defending the laws and constitutions of our states, territories, and nation.

Fundamental to our democracy, the rule of law is built upon citizen participation in electing the leaders who make and execute our state and national laws. Therefore, we urge all eligible voters to plan now for how they will vote in this election.

Trusted sources like the National Association of Secretaries of State or the National Association of State Election Directors provide information on how to

register to vote and your options for voting in-person or by mail. Eligible voters who plan to vote by mail should follow the instructions provided by state and local election officials, fill out your ballot properly, and return it to an officially designated drop-off place, by mail, or any other means permitted under your state's laws as soon as possible.

Across the country and under circumstances both familiar and uncharted, election officials are working to ensure that every eligible citizen can vote and that every vote is counted. America's attorneys general are also working to ensure a free, fair, and secure election. As part of our duty to uphold the rule of law, we will take seriously any allegations of election interference, including voter fraud, voter intimidation and suppression.

Moreover, we remind our fellow citizens that violence against persons or property is never an acceptable response to any election outcome and we condemn political violence of any kind.

Voting is a right and responsibility. We urge all Americans to ensure your voice is heard this election year by making a plan to vote now."

Joining Attorney General Frosh in signing the statement are the attorneys general of Alaska, California, Colorado, Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Northern Mariana Islands, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.